

# Social Care and Health Scrutiny Committee

29<sup>th</sup> November 2021

## ANNUAL REPORT ON ADULT SAFEGUARDING AND DEPRIVATION OF LIBERTY SAFEGUARDS (DoLS) (2020/21)

### Purpose:

To receive the Annual Report relating to Adult Safeguarding.

### To consider and comment on the following issues:

This report relates to the Adult Safeguarding and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards activity during the financial year (2020/21). It summarises the national, regional and local context of adult safeguarding and provides a variety of information including:

- National and Regional position
- Local Operational arrangements
- Audits and Inspections
- Performance and Activity Information

At the time of presenting this report, the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act is firmly embedded into practice and the Wales Safeguarding Procedures (Statutory Guidance) have been adopted by the Regional Safeguarding Board which is well established. This Board responsible for setting the strategic direction and governance arrangements for adult safeguarding in the Mid and West Wales region and benefits from excellent strategic leadership and strong partnership working arrangements.

The Board has strengthened Carmarthenshire's approach to ensuring every person has the right to live a life free from abuse and neglect, and it is everyone's responsibility to ensure that we work together to support and safeguard the most vulnerable in society.

We also consider that continuously reviewing and improving our local safeguarding arrangements, allows us to effectively respond to concerns reported to the local authority and ensures compliance with Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act and its associated statutory guidance.

### Reasons:

To provide Scrutiny Committee with the opportunity to consider and comment on the Authority's Annual Report relating to Adult Safeguarding.

To be referred to the Cabinet / Council for decision: Presented to Pre Cabinet 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021

**CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:-**

**Cllr. Jane Tremlett (Social Care and Health Portfolio Holder)**

<b>Directorate: Communities</b> <b>Name of Head of Service:</b> Avril Bracey  <b>Report Author:</b> Cathy Richards	<b>Designations:</b>  Head of Adult Social Care    Senior Manager Safeguarding/DoLS	<b>Tel Nos.:</b>  01267 228849 / 01267 228995  <b>E Mail Addresses:</b> ABracey@carmarthenshire.gov.uk CRichards@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
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**Social Care and Health Scrutiny Committee**  
**29<sup>th</sup> November 2021**

**Subject:**

**ANNUAL REPORT ON ADULT SAFEGUARDING AND DEPRIVATION OF LIBERTY SAFEGUARDS (DoLS) (2020-21)**

**1. BRIEF SUMMARY OF PURPOSE OF REPORT.**

The purpose of this report is to provide information on the role, functions and activities undertaken by the Local Authority in relation to Adult Safeguarding and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards.

The Report explains the current context of Safeguarding/DoLS and details the arrangements the Authority has established to respond effectively to such reports and applications received. As the statutory organisation responsible for adult safeguarding, the Authority is required to have effective arrangements in place to ensure adults at risk are protected from harm. The Local Authority undertakes this role in close partnership with Dyfed Powys Police, Hywel Dda University Health Board and other statutory and non-statutory organisations. The report itemises some of the key performance activity, processes and practice.

The Local Authority is also the Supervisory body for Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards which ensures some of our most vulnerable citizens are properly safeguarded. This report details current DoLS arrangements and the forthcoming changes.

This report aims to reassure the committee that Carmarthenshire County Council is well placed to implement the duties and principles of the Social Services and Well Being Act and is performing well in relation to meeting the expectations of DoLS Legislation (within the Mental Capacity Act (2005).

<b>DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED ?</b>	<b>YES</b>
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# IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

Signed: Avril Bracey

Head of Adult Social Care

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
NONE	YES	NONE	NONE	YES	NONE	NONE

## 1. Legal

We continue to review our processes to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 and the Wales Safeguarding procedures. We have systems in place to prioritise DoLS applications and scrutinise the quality of assessments undertaken.

## 2. Risk Management Issues

We have identified that there are risks associated with the waiting list for Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards authorisations which has reduced. We continue to make improvements in this area each year. We currently have no DoLS assessments awaiting authorisation as all have been authorised where appropriate. Although the financial and reputational risks remain, we have introduced robust processes to mitigate these risks.

# CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: Avril Bracey      Head of Adult Social Care

**1. Local Member(s)**

N/A

**2. Community / Town Council**

N/A

**3. Relevant Partners**

N/A

**4. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations**

N/A

**CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO  
HOLDER(S) AWARE/CONSULTED**

YES

**Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information**

**List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:**

**THERE ARE NONE**